

1. (original): A method of reducing dye loss or dye transfer from textile fibre materials, in which method the textile fibre materials are treated with a particulate composition comprising

- a) from 1 to 90 % by weight of a water-soluble dye fixative,
- b) from 2 to 80 % by weight of a carrier,
- c) from 0 to 60 % by weight of a binder that is soluble/dispersible in water,
- d) from 0 to 20 % by weight of a further additive, and
- e) from 0 to 15 % by weight water,

the percentages in each case denoting percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

2. (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the particulate composition is in the form of granules.

3. (currently amended): A method according to ~~either claim 1 or claim 2~~, wherein treatment is effected with a particulate composition comprising, as the water-soluble dye fixative a), a basic polycondensation product of an amine of formula



and a cyanamide, wherein ~~the mentioned~~ said polycondensation product either has not been neutralised or has been neutralised wholly or partially with an inorganic or organic acid,

R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 each independently of the others being hydrogen or alkyl unsubstituted or substituted by amino, hydroxy, cyano or by C_1 - C_4 alkoxy, and

A being alkylene which is unsubstituted or substituted or uninterrupted or interrupted by one or more hetero atoms.

4. (currently amended): A method according to claim 3, wherein A is C_2 - C_{20} alkylene uninterrupted or interrupted by -O-, -S-, -NH- or by -N(C_1 - C_4 alkyl)- and/or unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, ~~preferably C_2 - C_{20} alkylene interrupted one or more times by -NH-~~.

5. (currently amended): A method according to ~~either claim 3 or claim 4~~, wherein the compound of formula (1) is a polyethylenepolyamine, ~~especially diethylenetriamine~~.

6. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 5~~ claim 3, wherein the cyanamide is dicyandiamide.

7. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 6~~ claim 3, wherein the inorganic or organic acid is a mono- or poly-carboxylic acid, hydrochloric acid, phosphoric acid, sulfuric acid or a mixture of at least two such acids.

8. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein treatment is effected with a particulate composition comprising a carrier that comprises at least one of the following components:

- a) water-soluble inorganic and/or organic salts, which may ~~especially~~ be customary textile washing composition constituents but are ~~preferably~~ not surfactant components,
- b) finely divided organic solids that are capable of swelling in water and/or are water-soluble, and
- c) very finely dispersed water-insoluble inorganic carriers.

9. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, wherein the carrier b) consists of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of zeolites, bentonites, kieselguhr, talc, kaolin, mica, fuller's earth, cellulose, feldspar and/or condensation products of urea and formaldehyde.

10. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein the binder c) consists of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of starch, maltodextrin and carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, polyethylene glycols, ethylene oxide/propylene oxide copolymers, polyvinyl alcohols and/or gelatin.

11. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, wherein the particulate compositions comprise wetting agents, water-insoluble or water-soluble dyes, fillers, pigments, perfume oils, foam-regulators, thickeners, microbicides, complexing agents, dissolution accelerators, fluorescent whitening agents, UV absorbers, antioxidants and/or anti-dust agents as further additives d).

12. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, wherein the particulate compositions are coated.

13. (currently amended): A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, wherein the particulate compositions are uncoated and have a substantially homogeneous distribution of their constituents.

14. (currently amended): A particulate composition comprising

- a) from 1 to 90 % by weight of a water-soluble dye fixative,
- b) from 2 to 80 % by weight of a carrier,
- c) from 0 to 60 % by weight of a binder that is soluble/dispersible in water,
- d) from 0 to 20 % by weight of a further additive, and
- e) from 0 to 15 % by weight water,

the percentages in each case denoting percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, ~~and the constituents a), b), c), d) and e) being defined according to claims 1 to 13.~~

15. (currently amended): A method for the preparation of ~~the~~ a particulate composition according to claim 14, which comprises

- a) dissolving a dye fixative or a dye fixative and a binder in water, and then bringing a solid carrier into contact with the solution, ~~preferably forming a suspension therein~~, or
- b) dissolving a dye fixative or a dye fixative and a binder in water, and then applying the solution to the solid carrier or granulating it therewith, or
- c) extruding a paste comprising a dye fixative, a carrier and a binder, or
- d) granulating a mixture consisting of a dye fixative, a carrier and ~~possibly~~ optionally also a binder, by spray application of a solvent or a melt in which further binders ~~may~~ have optionally been dissolved, and drying the compositions obtained according to methods a), b), c) or d), or allowing them to solidify by cooling.

16. (original): A method according to claim 15, wherein, in a subsequent step, the particulate composition is sprayed with a solution of a coating material and is dried or is coated with a melt.

17. (currently amended): A washing formulation for reducing dye loss or dye transfer from textile fibre materials, comprising

- I) 5 - 90 % of A) at least one anionic surfactant and/or B) at least one non-ionic surfactant, based on the total weight of the washing formulation,
- II) 5 - 70 % of C) at least one builder substance, based on the total weight of the washing formulation,

- III) 0 - 30 % of D) at least one peroxide and optionally at least one activator, based on the total weight of the washing formulation,
- IV) 0.1 - 70 % of E) at least one particulate composition according to claim 15 comprising
- a) from 1 to 90 % by weight of at least one water-soluble dye fixative,
 - b) from 2 to 80 % by weight of at least one carrier,
 - c) from 0 to 60 % by weight of at least one binder that is soluble/dispersible in water,
 - d) from 0 to 20 % by weight of at least one further additive, and
 - e) from 0 to 15 % by weight water,
- V) 0 - 60 % of F) at least one further additive, and
- VI) 0 - 12 % of G) water.

18. (currently amended): A washing formulation according to claim 17, comprising

- I) 5 - 90 % of A) at least one anionic surfactant from the group consisting of C_{12} - C_{22} alkylethoxysulfates in which the alkyl moiety has from 10 to 20 carbon atoms and ~~the~~ a head group which contains on average 2 or 3 ethoxy units; alkylbenzenesulfonates having from 9 to 15 carbon atoms in the alkyl moiety; alkylnaphthalenesulfonates having from 6 to 16 carbon atoms in the respective alkyl moiety; or alkali metal sarcosinates of the formula R_{11} -CO-N(R_{12})-CH₂COOM₁,
 wherein R_{11} is alkyl or alkenyl having from 8 to 18 carbon atoms in the alkyl or alkenyl moiety,
 R_{12} is C_1 - C_4 alkyl and
 M_1 is an alkali metal, and/or
- of B) at least one non-ionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of ~~a~~ condensation products of from 3 to 8 mol of ethylene oxide with 1 mol of a primary alcohol having from 9 to 15 carbon atoms,
- II) 5 - 70 % of C) a builder substance selected from the group consisting of alkali metal phosphates; carbonates; bicarbonates; silicates; aluminium silicates; polycarboxylates; polycarboxylic acids; organic phosphonates or aminoalkylenepoly-(alkylene phosphonates),
- III) 0 - 30 % of D) a peroxide selected from the group consisting of organic mono- or poly-peroxides; organic per-acids or salts thereof; persulfates; perborates; percarbonates; and persilicates,

- IV) 0.1 - 70 % of E) granules comprising
- a) from 1 to 90 % by weight, ~~preferably from 5 to 88 % by weight, especially from 10 to 78 % by weight,~~ of polydiallyldimethylammonium compounds, ~~especially polydiallyldimethylammonium salts,~~ bischloromethylbiphenylpolyquat compounds, the compound polyethyleneimine and basic polycondensation products, ~~preferably those containing imidazolidine units and especially Tinofix-CL[®],~~
 - b) from 2 to 80 % by weight of at least one carrier selected from the group consisting of zeolites, bentonites, kieselguhr, talc, kaolin, mica, fuller's earth, cellulose, feldspar and condensation products of urea and formaldehyde,
 - c) from 0 to 60 % by weight of at least one non-ionic dispersant and/or water-soluble polymer selected from the group consisting of starch, maltodextrin and carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, polyethylene glycols, ethylene oxide/propylene oxide copolymers, polyvinyl alcohols and gelatin,
 - d) from 0 to 20 % by weight of at least one further additive selected from the group consisting of wetting agents; disintegrators; fillers, water-insoluble or water-soluble dyes or pigments; dissolution accelerators; fluorescent whitening agents; aluminium silicates; powdered cellulose; fibrous cellulose; microcrystalline cellulose; talc; kaolin; TiO₂; SiO₂ and magnesium trisilicate, and
 - e) from 0 to 15 % by weight water, in each case based on the total weight of the granules,
- V) 0 - 60 % of F) further additives selected from the group consisting of fluorescent whitening agents; suspending agents for dirt; pH regulators; foam-regulators; salts for regulating spray-drying and granulating properties; fragrances; antistatics; softeners; enzymes; bleaching agents; pigments; toning agents; further polymers which during the washing of textiles prevent staining by dyes found in the washing liquor which have dissolved out of the textiles under washing conditions; and bleaching agent activators, and
- VI) 0 - 12 % of G) water.

19. (currently amended): A softener formulation ~~for reducing~~ which reduces dye loss or dye transfer from textile fibre materials, comprising

- A) from 0.5 to 50 % by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of at least one softener component;
- B) from 0.005 to 15 % by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of at least one thickener, ~~especially a polymeric thickener~~;
- C) from 0.1 to 70 % by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of granules comprising
 - a) from 1 to 90 % by weight, ~~preferably from 5 to 88 % by weight, more preferably from 10 to 78 % by weight~~, of polydiallyldimethylammonium compounds, ~~especially polydiallyldimethylammonium salts~~, bischloromethylbiphenylpolyquat compounds, the compound polyethyleneimine and basic polycondensation products, ~~preferably those containing imidazolidine units and especially Tinofix-CL[®]~~;
 - b) from 2 to 80 % by weight of at least one carrier selected from the group consisting of zeolites, bentonites, kieselguhr, talc, kaolin, mica, fuller's earth, cellulose, feldspar and condensation products of urea and formaldehyde,
 - c) from 0 to 60 % by weight of at least one non-ionic dispersant and/or water-soluble polymer selected from the group consisting of starch, maltodextrin and carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxymethylcellulose, polyethylene glycols, ethylene oxide/propylene oxide copolymers, polyvinyl alcohols and gelatin, and
 - d) from 0 to 20 % by weight of at least one further additive selected from the group consisting of wetting agents; disintegrators; fillers, water-insoluble or water-soluble dyes or pigments; dissolution accelerators; fluorescent whitening agents; aluminium silicates; powdered cellulose; fibrous cellulose; microcrystalline cellulose; talc; kaolin; TiO₂; SiO₂ and magnesium trisilicate, and
 - e) from 0 to 15 % by weight water, in each case based on the total weight of the granules,
- D) from 0 to 20 % by weight, based on the total weight of the composition, of at least one further customary auxiliary substance, and
- E) water to 100 % by weight.